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# THE FIRST PROCLAMATION

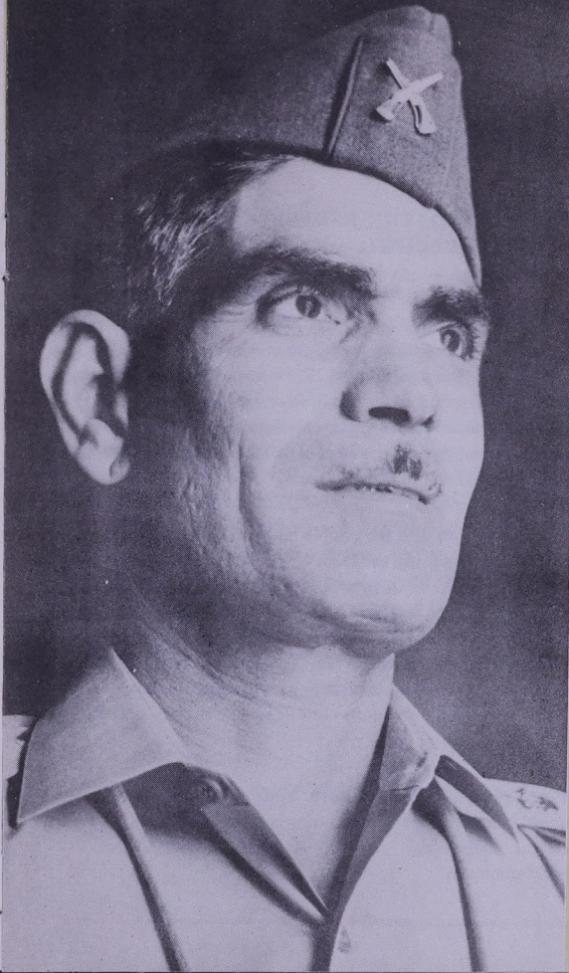
ISSUED BY  
THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
OF THE NATIONAL ARMED FORCES

on July 14th, 1958.



THE SYMBOL OF THE  
REVOLUTION OF JULY 14

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The Leader Major General Abdul Karim Qassim  
Prime Minister and Commander — in — Chief of the Armed Forces

# THE FIRST PROCLAMATION

## ISSUED BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL ARMED FORCES

IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE BENEFICENT,  
THE MERCIFUL.

### NOBLE IRAQI PEOPLE:

Relying on God, and with the support of the sincere sons of the People and that of the National Armed Forces, we have undertaken the liberation of the beloved Homeland from the domination of the corrupt clique that was installed by imperialism to rule the People and toy with their destiny in the service of its own interests and personal aims.

### BRETHREN :

The Army is from you and for you; it has undertaken what you have wanted, and removed the tyrannical clique which had flouted the rights of the People. Your duty is to support the Army. Let it be known that victory can be achieved only by reinforcing the Army and preserving it from the plots of imperialism and its stooges. We, therefore, call upon you to inform the Authorities of all corrupt, harmful and traitorous persons so that they may be uprooted. We ask you to stand united in order to eliminate them and get rid of their evils.

### CITIZENS :

While we admire your high patriotic spirit and glorious deeds, we call upon you to remain calm and quiet and maintain order and unity, as well as cooperation in your fruitful endeavour for the benefit of the Homeland.

### O PEOPLE:

We have sworn to offer our blood and everything we hold dear for your sake. Be sure and confident, therefore, that we will continue to work for you. The Country's affairs should be entrusted to a Government emanating from the People and inspired by them.

This cannot be accomplished except by the establishment of a People's Republic which will uphold complete Iraqi unity, and be bound by the ties of fraternity with the Arab and Moslem States, working in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the Resolutions of the Bandung Conference, and honouring all pledges and pacts consistent with the interests of the Homeland. Thus, this National Government shall be called as from now THE REPUBLIC OF 'IRAQ. In response to the desire of the People, we have provisionally entrusted the Presidency to a Sovereignty Council enjoying the powers of President of the Republic pending a plebiscite for the election of a President. We pray God that He may grant us success in our work for the service of our beloved Homeland. God is The One who hears and responds to our prayers.

Made in Baghdad this 26th day of Dhulhijja, 1377, corresponding to July 14, 1958.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
OF THE NATIONAL ARMED FORCES.



If the present century is to be characterised or described in one way or another, it could best be said that it is the era wherein the communities of mankind are approaching a free world and expecting to achieve brilliant victories, not only within the political fields, but also in the vast universal sphere, until the earthly paradise of philosophers sought after by all, is attained by the whole human race.

Iraq, with its four hundred years of dark history, full of wars, famine and slavery, is but one of the countries of the ancient world, which through the events of history, awoke to declare, by its great revolution, the end of an era of misery and terror, and the beginning of a new and better one, as did other nations before her.

With the departure of injustice and oppression, a new seed is developing, composed of the past, with its glories, the present, full of energy and effort, and the future with its promise of growth and development.

The circumstances which led to the revolution of the 14th of July, were not merely a revolt against a rule or an occasional political misunderstanding, but an explosion, destroying a specific way of life, to replace it with another, which will take the lead in this century.

The foundation of the revolution is firm, despite the stormy atmosphere surrounding it, as it was built on a sound and scientific base giving due consideration to international affairs, as well as the conflicting political and ideological principles of a world, where war was still going on between nations and their exploiters.

The existing unsatisfactory conditions which led to the employment of Iraq as the first strategic line of imperialism in the Middle East, can probably bring us closer to understanding the revolution and its philosophy, which aims at changing the standing form of policy, depending on imperialism and the peculiar social form based on the useless struggle between the classes, on the one hand, and the state, on the other, into a new field, where the resources of both can be brought together in the interests of building up a new and civilized community.

The first declaration of the revolution, was the historic announcement, broadcast at day-break, on July 14th, 1958, declaring the birth of The Immortal Iraqi Republic, in "the land of the two rivers". The words of this declaration were accumulated slowly and bitterly during the hard struggle endured by the people of Iraq over a long period, its form has been followed in an endeavour to reach the ultimate aim of the foundation of the first Republic of Iraq.

As a matter of fact, the revolution of the 14th of July, represents the end of the struggle of the nation. Its first fruit is the victory document in question, granting

equality and equilibrium in the rights and obligations of the citizens with regard to, 1) the assurance of the complete Iraqi unity, 2) the consolidation of the links of brotherhood and solidarity with the Arab and the Muslim States, 3) compliance with the principles of the United Nations and, 4) the adherence to - in accordance with the interests of the homeland - the agreements, pacts and the decisions of the Bandung Conference.

From the excellent wording of the declaration, one can realise that the design of the revolution was inspired by the sufferings of the people of Iraq, who though living in the 20th century, did not enjoy the same privileges as enjoyed by those of other nations of the same century. Furthermore, the facts contained in the declaration indicate that a complete apprehension and understanding are made regarding the situation in which the interests of imperialists were studied prior to those of the nation, allowing all benefits to flow in their direction.

If we have to give the proper elucidation of the declaration, notifying our liberation and recording our actual existence in recent history, as a glorious nation with a brilliant future, it is thought that there are no better words to fulfil this requirement than the true words spoken by the Commander of the Revolution, His Excellency, The Faithful Leader Abdul Karim Qassim, in which he said (though written in pencil, with letters shining like stars in the sky of our happiness and hopes) "We begin our declaration with the sentence-In the name of God, the Merciful - and end it with - He hears and responds in order to last the way in the face of those who are trying to split the unity, and those who want to destroy this blessed revolution, which has come to serve you, O, You the sons of a victorious nation".

This is the first part of the declaration issued on the day of the revolution, the next part refers to the word of the nation. "We have divided the declaration into four paragraphs, the first reads, "O, The Generous Nation of Iraq", the second contains the phrase, "O, Brothers", the third, "O, Citizens", and the last "O, Nation".

From these words you may conclude that we have come to serve the nation, which is the source of power, and owns the right of initial and final decisions in the ruling of, and domination of the country.

The fourth paragraph continues as follows; "This, however, cannot be accomplished without the formation of a Popular Republic, adhering to the principle of complete Iraqi Unity. In this way can we serve the interests of the people, without discrimination.

Finally, the paragraph states; "We have two kinds of ties, one, the Arab Brotherhood, the other, the Moslem Brotherhood and these two will keep us together."

